Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS PINT KS

SUBJECT: BISHOP CHI'S TRIAL

- 1. BISHOP CHI HAK SON'S EMERGENCY COURT MARTIAL TRIAL REOPENED TODAY AUGUST 7. NO DETAILS OF PROCEEDINGS AS YET AVAILABLE. CARDINAL KIM SAW THE BISHOP ON AUGUST 5 AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT HE APPEARED TIRED AND WEARY FROM LONG INTERROGATION. THERE HAVE BEEN RENEWED REPORTS OF MISTREATMENT OF BISHOP AND THREE KOREAN CATHOLIC FATHERS NOW HELD, WHICH EMBASSY SEEKING TO VERIFY.
- 2. KOREAN PRESS REPORTS THAT NUNCIO DOSSENA CALLED ON VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LHO SHIN YOUNG TO DISCUSS BISHOP CHI. AT THE MEETING THE NUNCIO EXPLAINED VATICAN VIEWPOINT AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE CASE OF BISHOP CHI WOULD BE SETTLED "FAVORABLY." IN THIS STORY PRESS HAD RESUMED USE OF BISHOP CHI'S RELIGIOUS TITLE, WHICH HAD BEEN OMITTED IN EARLIER REPORTING.
- 3. TONGA ILBO OF AUGUST 7 CARRIED BRIEF REUTER CONFIDENTIAL

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STORY THAT VATICAN RADIO HAD BROKEN SILENCE

ON TRIAL OF BISHOP CHI. IT QUOTED RADIO AS SAYING:
"WE HOPE THAT THE TRIAL OF BISHOP CHI WILL BE CONDUCTED IN
A FAIR MANNER." THE ANNOUNCEMENT ALSO SAID THAT THE
ARREST OF THE BISHOP HAD CAUSED GREAT SURPRISE AND
CONSTERNATION IN MANY COUNTRIES AS WELL AS AMONG THE
KOREAN BISHOPS AND THE KOREAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY.

4. FOR ROME: APPRECIATE TEXT OF ANY VATICAN ANNOUNCEMENTS RE BISHOP CHI CASE. HABIB

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